THE DAILY SILVER BELT

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H. C. HOLDSWORTH M. H. HIENER

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE COUNTY OF GILA OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE CITY OF GLOBE

Daily, by mail, one year\$7.50 Weekly, one year..... 2.50 Weekly, six months 1.25

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The Silver Belt has a larger paid circulation than any daily newspaper in the world published in a city with 12,000 or less monation.

BONDS FOR IRRIGATION

Certificates of indebtedness, or bonds in the sum of \$30,000,000 to raise money "to complete and properly extend reclamation projects already begun," will be authorized in a bill reported from the senate committee on irrigation, Monday.

A long and interesting session was held by the committee in which was fought out the question of issuing bonds or certificates of indebt edness. The principle on which the proposed legislation is based was presented in a bill providing for the authorization of a \$30,000,000 bond issue. This measure was prepared after a conference with President Taft and Secretary Ballinger while the president was in the west tism. last summer.

The majority of the committee voted in favor of certificates only after it was reported by as \$1 per word for a few remarks exclusively Chairman Carter that Speaker Cannon believes it would be impossible to get a bond issue through the house.

the change if the majority of the committee obtained assurance over Sunday that a bill providing for the issuance of certificates would pass the house. If favorable house action is uncertain, Senator Borah will offer a majority report providing the proposed bond issue.

Whether certificates or bonds are authorized, the securities may be issued as needed up to a limit of \$30,000,000 and will draw 3 per cent interest, panalla quarterly.

Ties will be guaranteed by the govern and of the reclimation fund. Mr. Borah and supporters of a bond issue believes that form of security would be the most readily mar-

THE POSTAL "DEFICIT"

the postoffice department will always show a he really was seeking to accomplish. "deficit" at the end of each fiscal year. The reason is that the postal service is an agency of promotion and development. There are processoutlay, but properly considered, they are sound sorts should be able to get on the platform. investments. The postal business must be considered as a whole. The printed matter carried letters whose postage yielded a "profit" of \$80,-000,000. All reading, as do all other processes over. of education, tends to create the letter-writing habit, which is further stimulated by advertising. The costliest route in the west or in some centers of population and industry. The so- line. See? called "deficit" is under 10 per cent of the total business of the department, and the ratio has spite the addition of the rural free delivery.

work of public education and the wide diffusion to run the government. of intelligence. Economy and efficiency are constantly needed in the postal service, because it is a living agency of civilization and is steadily being mainly that of the short haul. The longer little Johnnie will like it, haul of pretended "periodicals" adds to this expenditure. The express companies have the profitable short haul. If these were a parcels post, the department would have both classes. The postal service must be considered as an agency for the education, convenience, and development of all the people of the United States, without regard to their places of resi dence.

WHO PAYS IMPORT DUTIES?

'American protectionists on the stump have fallen into the habit of telling voters: First, that eost of the article protected.

not), how do the protectionists account for the two months. Evidently an ultra-fashionable fact that the difference in the cost of bread in doctor given to prescribing for plutocrats ex-Great Britain and Germany is invariably equal clusively.

or greater in Germany by the amount of the German import duty?

After it is explained that the German duty on wheat is \$2.84 a quarter (480 pounds), four paragraphs will suffice to convince any ordinary mortal at least in this instance the import duty is added to the price of the article taxed, and instead of being paid by the "foreigner," is paid by the consumer:

1. At the beginning of August, 1908, the Ber lin workman paid for a quarter of wheat \$10.48 At that time the price of wheat per quarter in free trade England was \$7.64. Thus it will be seen that the Berlin consumer paid the free trade price and the amount of the tariff.

2. By the middle of October the Berlin consumer was paying \$10,56 for his quarter of wheat at the time, the German tariff of \$2.84, and a shilling extra. This is an instance of how protection puts a fictitious value on an article While the price of wheat fell in free trade England, it increased in high-protection Germany.

3. At the end of November the price of wheat in Berlin was \$11.04, which means that the Berlin consumer was paying the prevailing English price of \$7.72, the tariff of \$2.84 and two shill ings extra. And even this is not all.

4. On March 10, 1909, the Berlin consume was paying \$11.78 for his quarter of wheat. This represented the prevailing English price of \$8.36, the \$2.84 tariff tax and a 58-cent steal.

And under the Payne-Aldrich-Smoot law the American consumer is being bled in the same manner every time he purchases an article on which there is an excessive tariff rate, such as sugar, clothing, blankets, farming implements and some two thousand other articles too numerous to mention.

There were fewer lynchings in 1909 than in 1908. Another evidence of returning conserva-

We think G. Pinchot might easily get as much submitted.

"Jim Jeffries refuses to talk," says a sport-Mr. Borah said he would be willing to accept ing item. Alas, poor "Jeff!" We knew him well. A fellow of infinite biff.

> "Long hair has become the fashion for men in London," notes the Savannah News. Is this a concession to the suffragettes!

> "G. O. P. may yet come to be accepted as meaning 'Grand Old Pinchot,' '' says a contemporary. And, on the contrary, as merely having meant "Get out, Pinchot!"

> "Don't be beglomaniac," will hardly become as popular in this country, we imagine, as was "Don't be a mollycoddle," although it would seem to be equally as good advice.

A western man wrote a poem recently, and immediately thereafter killed himself. This got It is possible-perhaps it is probable-that the poem in print, which may have been what

"Mr. Taft is a big president," avers the

Charleston News and Courier, Knockers, ines that never show dividends upon the primal surgents, incurable Bwanatumboites, and all

"The people are thinkers," suggests the in the mails at a "loss" of \$98,000,000 created Charleston News and Courier. And what some as a result of its circulation a large part of the of the "regulars" in republican circles are thinking would hardly be safe to print, more-

Tucson can be excused for its action in reference to the proposed San Carlos damsite. With region of new development tends to increase the clear sailing through the canyon, the Old Pueblo "prefitable" mail business transacted in the will early become a "jerk water" town on a local

Senator Aldrich, it is said, has determined not increased during the past dozen years, de- not to retire from the senate at the end of his present term of service. This will save Rhode The activity of the postoffice is a part of the Island the trouble of hunting up another man

A well-known woman's magazine has been discussing very seriously the problem of sciengrowing. Its expenditures should be watched tific spanking. The more science and the less with care. The newspaper delivery costs little, spanking the final decision contains, the better

> An Ohio judge recently decided that poker is a game of chance; and now comes a New York judge and decides it is nothing of the kind. It requires no learned psychologist to guess the sort of game each judge plays.

> As we understand the Houston Post, Texas not only had more lynchings than any other state last year, but they were more majestic, uplifting, and awe-inspiring than the measly little lynchings of other outside communities.

A California physician reverses the usually import duties are paid by foreigners; and sec- accepted theory as to rheumatism and a meat ond, that the amount of duty is not added to the diet, and declares that the consumption of two pounds of rare porterhouse steak per day will If these assertions are true, (which they are permanently cure any case of rheumatism in

In The Halls of Congress

Special Washington Correspondence.

Much work has been accomplished in the last year by the division of prosecutions of the in terstate commerce commission.

Since December 1, 1908, thirty-five indict ments for criminal violations of the acts to reguate commerce have been returned, forty-two prosecutions have been concluded, twenty-nine penalties ranging in amount from \$100 to \$15,- bility. The finding and publication of an indict-000, and aggregating \$92,950, have been assessed. The sum of \$304,233 has been collected during the year in fines for criminal violations of the interstate commerce act by carriers and shippers. John H. Marble, attorney for the in-

The only indictments against any railroad official returned during the year are the two against the president of the Louisville, Henderson & St. Louis railway. These indictments of republican leaders to row among themselves charge the giving of rebates by this official at a is not prompted by the old idea that, no matter time when he was general freight and passenger agent of his road.

"It is believed," says the annual report of the commission, "that violations of the interstate commerce act are decreasing. The year's work shown no decrease in the more insidious forms of rebating resulting from arrangements legal

"The penalties imposed upon the pleas of ruffled, and placid as a lake.

guilty received have been in every case moderate in amount. This is due to the policy followed since this division of prosecutions was organized. It is believed that the most satisfactory results in the way of enforcement of the law can be reached by means of frequent prosecutions for moderate penalties rather than by means of a smaller number of prosecutions for large penalties. Certainty of punishment is a more effective deterrent from crime than severity of punishment. This class of offenders is almost entirely composed of men of respectament against them, or against a corporation for their acts, is in itself a substantial punishment."

The report states there is "urgent need" of a physical valuation of railroads, which was a terstate commerce commission, has been in Roosevelt policy and a pet project of Senator mability simplest scientific eng charge of nearly all of the above mentioned LaFollette of Wisconsin. President Taft does not discuss this subject in his message recently submitted to congress.

> Let us hope the present cheerful willingness what else happens or fails to happen, Mr. Bryan will again be the democratic candidate for the presidency in 1912.

"Feet are growing larger," says the Chicago has developed, however, all the forms of wrong- Post. That paper has the courage of its condoing known in previous years. The year has victions, despite ancient merry quips and jests.

But when the "pork bar'l" heaves in sight in every respect except in the result produced. the congressional waters will grow as calm, un-

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